advance sanctioned to them. In both the cases, explanations of the employees have been received and appropriate action will be taken by the competent authorities.

**Loans sanctioned by Syndicate Bank**

*277. SHRI RAMNATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of parties identified upto 1994-95 as having non-performing assets and outstanding loan for more than one crore from Syndicate Bank;

(b) how much is the amount involved as secured Loan and as clean Loan (unsecured Loan); and

(c) what action Government have taken/propose to take against those officials who are responsible for sanction of above loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has advised that the law relating to confidentiality of banker-customer relationship does not permit disclosure of the names of borrowers.

(b) Syndicate Bank has reported that the amount involved in the accounts identified as non-performing having outstanding balance of more than Rs. 1 crore as on 31.3.1995 is as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

| | |
|---|---|
| Secured liability | 271.53 |
| Unsecured liability | 297.23 |
| Total Outstanding | 568.76 |

(c) Syndicate Bank has reported that it has initiated action against two officers who have been found responsible for sanctioning loans to defaulting borrowers. Syndicate Bank has further reported that regular departmental action has been initiated/taken against 27 other officials where procedural violations have been observed.

**Out-Station Account-Payee Cheques**

*278. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any directive has been issued to the commercial banks to credit out-station account-payee cheques upto Rs.2500 to customers' accounts on an immediate basis;

(b) if answer to (a) is in the affirmative, the arrangements made to ensure that the directive is being adhered to; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to extend the coverage of the directive to cheques upto Rs.5000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India have reported that they had advised banks in July, 1989 to credit outstation account payee cheques upto Rs.2500/- to individual customers accounts subject to their maintaining a satisfactory account. Based on the recommendations of the Goiporia Committee on Customer Service in Banks, RBI had advised banks on 27.5.1992 to increase the ceiling limit of Rs.2500/- for immediate credit to Rs.5000/- tendered by individual account holders having satisfactory conduct of account and on the request of the customer subject to the recovery of usual collection charges. RBI have again advised banks on 17.5.1995 to take immediate steps to ensure that all outstation cheques upto Rs.5000/- are paid even without waiting for customers request for the facility. In the event of cheques being returned unpaid the banks can charge interest at commercial rate on overdrawn amount from the date of allowing the withdrawal till the amounts are returned.